

## Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 FEA-01 ACDA-10 AGR-10 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01

CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 OFA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

EB-07 EPA-04 ERDA-07 FMC-02 TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-02 OES-05

OMB-01 PA-02 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /130 W

----- 035027

O R 062240Z NOV 75 ZFF-6

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1027

INFO USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 1152

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS MEXICO 9792

DEPT PASS DOD/DIA

USUN NEW YORK FOR RIDGEWAY

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, MX

SUBJECT: GOM INITIATES LEGISLATIVE ACTION TO ESTABLISH

200-MILE ECONOMIC ZONE

REF: MEXICO 6957

1. AT NOON YESTERDAY, PRES. ECHEVERRIA SIGNED TWO MESSAGES  
TO CONGRESS AIMED AT BRINGINGINTO LAW 200-MILE EXLUSIVE  
ECONOMIC ZONE WHICH HE ANNOUNCED MEXICO WOULD ESTABLISH LAST  
AUGUST 5 (REFTEL. PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE CALLED FOR  
AMENDMENT OF ARTICLE 27 OF MEXICAN CONSTITUTION(WHICH VESTS  
ULTIMATE OWNERSHIP OF LANDS AND WATERS WITHIN NATIONAL  
BOUNDARY IN THE STATE AND ASSserts ITS CONTROL OVER USE OF  
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THOSE TERRITORIES) AS WELL AS APPROVAL OF SPECIFIC FEDERAL

REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

2. IN SUMMARY, PROPOSED LEGISLATION PROVIDES AS FOLLOWS:

A. ART. 27 IS AMENDED TO ESTABLISH EXERCISE OF "RIGHTS OF SOVEREIGNTY" AND JURISDICTION OVER AN EXLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE EXTENDING 200 NAUTICAL MILES FROM COASTAL BASELINES NOW USED TO MEASURE TERRITORIAL WATERS, EXCEPT THAT OFF YUCATAN COASTS BORDERS OF ZONE WILL BE DETERMINED AS NECESSARY BY AGREEMENT WITH INTERESTED STATES (I.E., HONDURAS, CUBA). AMENDMENT TAKES EFFECT 120 DAYS FOLLOWING PUBLICATION IN OFFICIAL GAZETTE (WHICH OCCURS AFTER CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL AND RATIFICATION BY MAJORITY OF STATE LEGISLATURES).

B. DRAFT REGULATIONS REPEAT TERMS OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT, THEN STIPULATE FOLLOWING:

(I) ISLANDS WHICH ARE PART OF NATIONAL TERRITORY, EXCEPT UNINHABITED OR ECONOMICALLY VALUELESS ONES, WILL HAVE OWN 200-MUE ZONES AROUND THEM.

(II) WITHIN 200-MILE ZONE, STATE HAS SOVEREIGN RIGHTS TO EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION, CONSERVATION AND ADMINISTRATION, OF BOTH RENEWABLE AND NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES IN SUBSOIL AND WATERS ABOVE; EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS AND JURISDICTION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF ARTIFICIAL ISLANDS, INSTALLATIONS, AND OTHER STRUCTURES; EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION WITH RESPECT TO OTHER ACTIVITIES RELATED TO EXPLORATION AND ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION OF ZONE; AND JURISDICTION REGARDING PRESERVATION OF MARINE ENVIRONMENT, INCLUDING CONTROL AND ELIMINATION OF POLLUTION AND SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION.

(III) FOREIGN STATES WILL ENJOY RIGHTS OF NAVIGATION, OVERFLIGHT, AND CABLE/PIPE LAYING WITHIN ZONE, AS WELL AS OTHER RELATED INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED USES.

(IV) FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL ESABLISH ADMINISTRATION AND CONSERVATION MEASURES TO ENSURE THAT LIVING RESOURCES ARE NOT OVER-EXPLOITED, SETTING LIMITS ON ALLOWABLE CATCHES.

(V) FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL ALSO PROMOTE OPTIMUM UNCLASSIFIED

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USE OF LIVING RESOURCES WITHIN ZONE. WHEN TOTAL PERMISSIBLE CAPTURE OF A SPECIES EXCEEDS CAPACITY OF NATIONAL FLEETS, GOVERNMENT WILL GRANT ACCESS TO FOREIGN FLEETS TO HARVEST THE DIFFERENCE.

(VI) NO MODIFICATION OF PRESENT CONTINENTAL PLATFORM REGIME.

(VII) PRESENT FEDERAL LAWS WILL APPLY TO ALL ABOVE AREAS OF JURISDICTION UNTIL NEW SPECIFIC LAWS ARE

ISSUED.

(VIII) REGULATIONS TAKE EFFECT 120 DAYS FOLLOWING  
PUBLICATION IN OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

3. AT JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWING SIGNATURE OF  
PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO CONGRESS, SECRETARIES OF FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS, INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE, AND NAVY, AND ACTING  
SECRETARY OF NATIONAL PATRIMONY HIGHLIGHTED IMPLICATIONS  
OF 200-MILE ZONE IN THEIR PARTICULAR SPHERES. FONSEC  
RABASA CALLED IT ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ACTS IN  
MEXICO'S DIPLOMATIC HISTORY, NOTING IT WAS "IN A SENSE  
A REVINDICATION BY MEXICO FOR TERRITORIAL DISMEMBERMENT  
WHICH IT HAD UNFORTUNATELY AND UNJUSTLY SUFFERED IN PAST."  
RABASA ADDED THAT "WE WILL NOW HAVE A MEXICO TWICE AS  
LARGE AS TODAY'S." FONSEC STRESSED THAT MEASURE ACCORDED  
WITH AGREEMENTS ALREADY REACHED ON SINGLE TEXT AT  
GENEVA AND CARCAS, AND EXPRESSED HOPE MANY OTHER COUNTRIES  
WOULD TAKE SIMILAR STEP.

4. SECRETARY OF INDUSTRY/COMMERCE CAMPILLO SAINZ SAID  
THAT BY CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATE MEXICO'S FISHING HARVEST,  
WHICH IS NOW ABOUT A HALF MILLION TONS PER YEAR, SHOULD AT  
LEAST TRIPLE UNDER 200-MILE REGIME. NAVY SECRETARY BRAVO  
CARRERA GAVE ASSURANCES THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE, WITH  
EQUIPMENT NOW AT HAND, FOR NAVY TO PATROL HUGE NEW AREA  
AND ENFORCE GOM JURISDICTION. ACTING PATRIMONY SECRETARY  
RAFOULL SAID THAT IN ADDITION TO PETROLEUM MEXICO WOULD BE  
ABLE TO EXPLOIT SUCH OTHER MEINERALS IN SEABED AND SUBSOIL OF  
ZONE AS PHOSPHORIC ROCK, TITANIUM, NICKEL, AND SULFUR.

5. COMMENT: EMBASSY SEES NOTHING NEW OR STARTLING IN  
PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES AND LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS, NOR ANY  
SIGNIFICANT DEPARTURE FROM THAT ANNOUNCED IN AUGUST. ART. 27  
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LANGUAGE MAKES CLEAR GOM EXPECTS TO NEGOTIATE DIFFERENCES  
WITH ITS NEIGHBORS OVER OVERLAPPING 200-MILE JURISDICTIONS,  
ONCE THEY MAKE SIMILAR MARITIME CLAIMS. AND REGULATIONS,  
WHILE OBVIOUSLY RESERVING FIRST CRACK AT FISHERIES FOR  
NATIONALS, MAKE CLEAR THAT MEXICO INTENDS TO EXPLOIT THESE  
RESOURCES FULLY AND WILL AFFORD OPPORTUNITY TO FOREIGN  
FISHERMEN TO TAKE THOSE SQ  
H#WHICH NATIONALS ARE INCAPABLE OF  
HARVESTING. WE NOTE FINALLY THAT NOTHING IN PROCEDURES  
CHOSEN BY PRESIDENT IMPLIES SUDDEN ARBITRARY ACTION,  
SINCE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS PLUS RATIFICATION WILL TAKE AT LEAST  
SOME WEEKS AND LAWS WILL NOT TAKE EFFECT FOR ANOTHER FOUR  
MONTHS AFTER THAT PROCESS IS COMPLETED.

6. SPANISH TEXTS OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION BEING SENT

SEPTEL. FULL TEXTS OF LENGTHY PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES WILL  
FOLLOW BY AIRGRAM.  
BRANDIN

NOTE BY OCT: #TEXT AS RECEIVED.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LAW OF THE SEA, ADJACENT SEAS, TWO HUNDRED MILE LIMIT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 NOV 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 75 MEXICO 6957  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** buchant0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 OCT 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <06 OCT 2003 by chicheje>; APPROVED <18 FEB 2004 by buchant0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GOM INITIATES LEGISLATIVE ACTION TO ESTABLISH 200-MILE ECONOMIC ZONE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PLOS, MX  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006